CTPC International Trade Agreement Policy

WORKING DOCUMENT

July 16, 2010

The Citizen Trade Policy Commission believes that Maine must be able to compete successfully in the global economy in order to realize its full economic potential. The commission supports efforts to foster and increase the export of Maine's products and services around the world. International trade agreements are indispensable tools that enable the expansion of global trade and can level the economic playing field between nations and sub-national governments. The commission favors international trade agreements that:

- 1. Recognize and maintain the state's sovereign right to govern its domestic affairs;
- 2. Enhance the ability of Maine businesses to export and import goods and services;
- 3. Create new employment opportunities in the state without compromising labor standards in Maine or abroad:
- 4. Does not provide foreign-investors special privileges or a private enforcement system;
- 5. Does not encourage development or trade that is not environmental sustainable or that may compromise or violate a national or sub-national environmental law or regulation;
- 6. Fosters access to affordable healthcare and affordable pharmaceuticals for everyone; and

Additionally, the commission supports increased transparency in trade agreement negotiations and enhanced federal-state consultation regarding those negotiations.

The Citizen Trade Policy Commission has voted to confirm this set of policies on July 16, 2010 and grants the chairs of the commission the authority to apply and communicate these policies to others and in the interest of Maine's citizenry and environment.

enator Jackson, co-chair

1/16/10

Representative Rotundo, co-chair

July 16, 2010

Date